

Focus Area 16: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Objective 16-11b targets the reduction in preterm births between 32 and 36 completed weeks gestation to a rate of 6.4 per 100 live births (6.4 percent).

A total of 27,107 preterm live births between 32-36 weeks gestation were reported in 2000, at a rate of 5.1 percent based on data extracted from the Birth Statistical Master Files (Figure 16-11b, Table 16-11b). A total of 26,960 preterm births were reported at a rate of 5.1 percent in 2001, 26,936 in 2002 at a rate of 5.1 percent, and 28,381 in 2003 at a rate of 5.2 percent. California's preterm birth rates for this gestational age are significantly lower than the HP2010 target of 6.4 percent, and this HP2010 objective is being achieved.

Data by race-ethnicity show that the highest preterm (32-36 weeks gestation) birth rates were found for African Americans/Blacks (7.2 percent in 2000 and 2001, 7.1 in 2002, and 7.5 in 2003). The next highest preterm birth rates were found for Native Hawaiians/Other Pacific Islanders (5.2 percent in 2000, 5.6 in 2001, 6.6 in 2002, and 6.2 in 2003), and American Indians/Alaska Natives (5.8 percent in 2000, 5.9 in 2001, 5.7 in 2002, and 5.6 in 2003). This HP2010 objective is being achieved for all racial or ethnic groups except African Americans/Blacks as of 2003.

Examined by age of the mother, preterm (32-36 weeks gestation) birth rates were highest for those under 15 years (10.1 percent in 2000, 8.4 in 2001, 7.7 in 2002, and 8.0 in 2003), followed by those aged 35 years and over (5.9 percent in 2000, 6.2 in 2001, 6.1 in 2002, and 6.3 in 2003). The HP2010 objective of 6.4 percent is being achieved for all maternal age groups except those under 15 as of 2003.

Preterm birth rates (32-36 weeks gestation) for male infants were higher than those for female infants in each year during the 2000-2003 period. The HP2010 objective is being achieved for both male and female infants as of 2003.

For more information on preterm births in California, visit the Maternal and Child Health Branch Web site at:

<http://www.mch.dhs.ca.gov/>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 16-11b please visit:

http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/16MICH.htm#_Toc494699661

and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od16.htm#riskfactors>

Figure 16-11b
Preterm Births (32-36 Completed Weeks Gestation)
California, 2000-2003

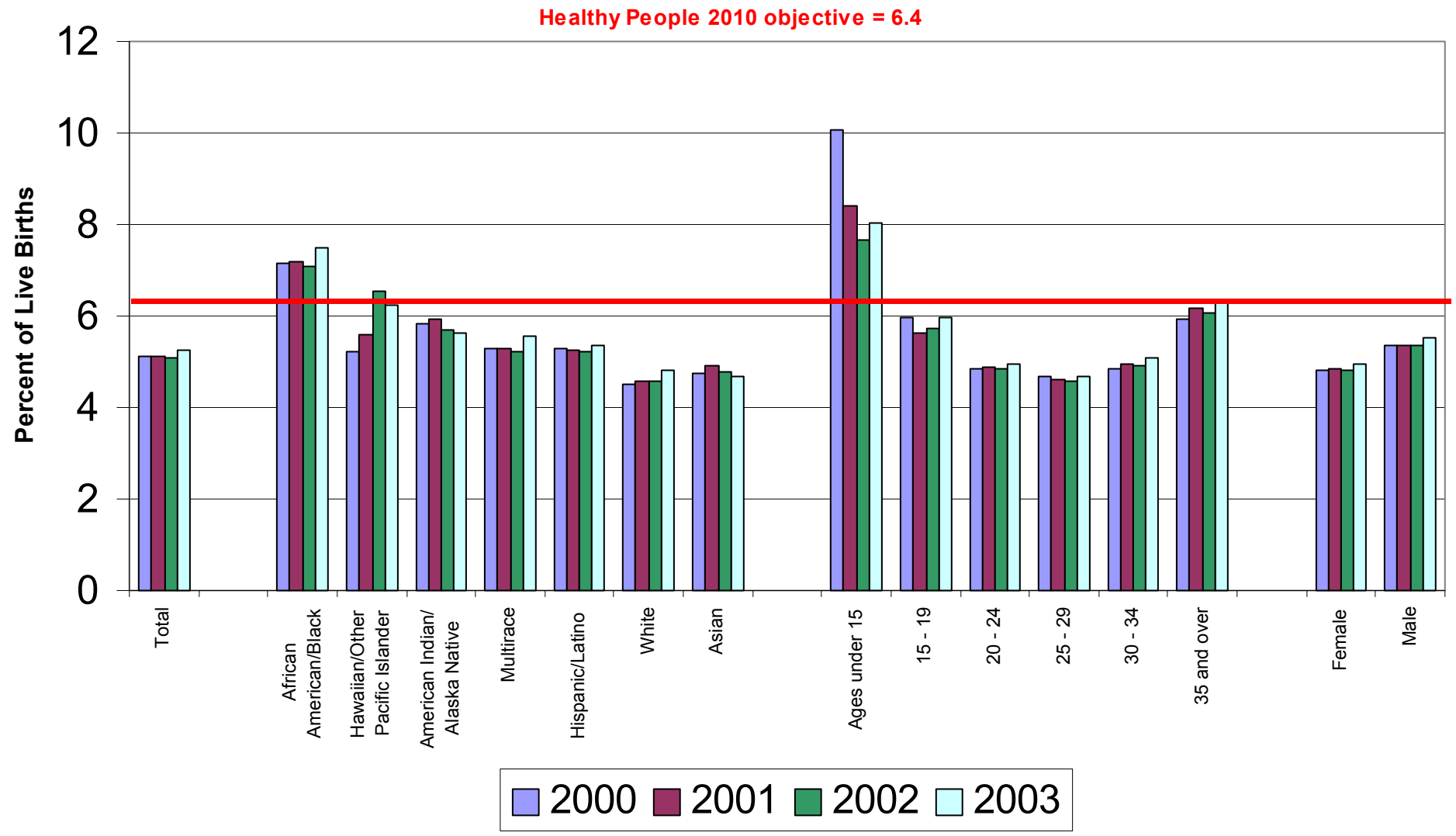


Table 16-11b
Preterm Births 32-36 Weeks
California, 2000-2003

Preterm Births (32-36 weeks)	2000					2001				
	Preterm Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.	Preterm Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target	6.4					6.4				
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	27,107	531,285	5.1	5.0	5.2	26,960	527,371	5.1	5.1	5.2
Race-Ethnicity of Mother										
African American/Black	2,313	32,302	7.2	6.9	7.4	2,227	30,965	7.2	6.9	7.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	115	1,975	5.8	4.8	6.9	118	1,986	5.9	4.9	7.0
Asian	2,791	58,876	4.7	4.6	4.9	2,822	57,443	4.9	4.7	5.1
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	124	2,376	5.2	4.3	6.1	132	2,355	5.6	4.7	6.5
Hispanic/Latino	13,677	257,958	5.3	5.2	5.4	13,671	260,996	5.2	5.2	5.3
White	7,599	168,233	4.5	4.4	4.6	7,490	163,777	4.6	4.5	4.7
Multirace	330	6,254	5.3	4.7	5.8	337	6,388	5.3	4.7	5.8
Maternal Age Group										
Under 15	90	895	10.1	8.1	12.0	68	810	8.4	6.5	10.3
15 - 19	3,303	55,373	6.0	5.8	6.2	2,988	52,966	5.6	5.4	5.8
20 - 24	5,945	122,591	4.8	4.7	5.0	5,996	123,227	4.9	4.7	5.0
25 - 29	6,514	139,615	4.7	4.6	4.8	6,286	136,439	4.6	4.5	4.7
30 - 34	6,201	127,502	4.9	4.7	5.0	6,331	127,946	4.9	4.8	5.1
35 and over	5,054	85,309	5.9	5.8	6.1	5,291	85,983	6.2	6.0	6.3
Sex of Child										
Female	12,507	259,217	4.8	4.7	4.9	12,547	258,121	4.9	4.8	4.9
Male	14,599	272,061	5.4	5.3	5.5	14,411	269,237	5.4	5.3	5.4

Table 16-11b, continued
Preterm Births 32-36 Weeks
California, 2000-2003

Preterm Births (32-36 weeks)	2002					2003				
	Preterm Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.	Preterm Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target	6.4					6.4				
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	26,936	529,241	5.1	5.0	5.1	28,381	540,827	5.2	5.2	5.3
Race-Ethnicity of Mother										
African American/Black	2,114	29,806	7.1	6.8	7.4	2,187	29,211	7.5	7.2	7.8
American Indian/Alaska Native	112	1,966	5.7	4.7	6.7	113	2,004	5.6	4.6	6.6
Asian	2,839	59,376	4.8	4.6	5.0	2,876	61,525	4.7	4.5	4.8
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	158	2,411	6.6	5.6	7.5	150	2,409	6.2	5.3	7.2
Hispanic/Latino	13,729	263,022	5.2	5.1	5.3	14,490	269,691	5.4	5.3	5.5
White	7,416	161,470	4.6	4.5	4.7	7,850	162,920	4.8	4.7	4.9
Multirace	355	6,813	5.2	4.7	5.7	395	7,112	5.6	5.0	6.1
Maternal Age Group										
Under 15	57	743	7.7	5.8	9.6	57	710	8.0	6.0	10.0
15 - 19	2,884	50,200	5.7	5.5	5.9	2,936	49,330	6.0	5.7	6.2
20 - 24	5,947	123,056	4.8	4.7	5.0	6,134	123,815	5.0	4.8	5.1
25 - 29	6,303	137,236	4.6	4.5	4.7	6,580	140,556	4.7	4.6	4.8
30 - 34	6,414	130,367	4.9	4.8	5.0	6,864	134,809	5.1	5.0	5.2
35 and over	5,331	87,639	6.1	5.9	6.2	5,810	91,607	6.3	6.2	6.5
Sex of Child										
Female	12,463	258,855	4.8	4.7	4.9	13,088	263,882	5.0	4.9	5.0
Male	14,471	270,378	5.4	5.3	5.4	15,292	276,933	5.5	5.4	5.6

SOURCE: California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Statistical Master Files, 2000-2003.

NOTES: ¹ Preterm births defined as live births between 32 to 36 completed weeks gestation (224-252 days); records with missing gestational age and with gestational ages of 118 days or less are excluded.

² Live births among California residents; excludes fetal deaths,

³ Rate per 100 live births (percent).